

De-Mystifying the First (Alpha) Declension

The **2nd Declension** uses **ο/ω** in its endings.

The **1st Declension** uses **α/η** in its endings.

Characteristics of the **First Declension**:

- There is *no variation in the plural endings*
- The singular will use **η** as the long ending vowel in most cases
- The singular will use **ᾱ** as the long ending vowel following ε, ι or ρ
- The singular case markers are the same, whatever the vowel:

Nom/Voc: α / η
 Gen: α / η with -ς
 Dat: α / η with iota subscript
 Acc: α / η with -ν

Similarities in 1st/2nd Declensions

1. All Dative forms in all genders and numbers have iota
2. All Accusative singular forms end with -ν
3. Final -οι and -αι (Nominative plural) are short vowels
4. All Genitive plural forms in all genders end with -ων
5. All vocative plurals are identical to vocative nominatives

2 nd (omicron) Declension				1 st (alpha) Declension					
M		N		F	<i>Noun ends with long vowel after ε, ι, or ρ</i>	<i>Noun ends with short vowel after ε, ι, or ρ</i>	Endings		
				Singular					
1	ὁ	ἀγρός	τὸ δένδρον	N.	ἡ κρήνη	ὕδριᾱ	μέλιττᾱ	μάχαιρᾱ	α / η
	τοῦ	ἀγροῦ	τοῦ δένδρου	G.	τῆς κρήνης	ὕδριᾱς	μελίττης	μαχαίρᾱς	ας / ης
2	τῷ	ἀγρῷ	τῷ δένδρῳ	D.	τῇ κρήνῃ	ὕδριᾱ̇	μελίττῃ	μαχαίρᾱ̇	α / η
	τὸν	ἀγρόν	τὸ δένδρον	A.	τὴν κρήνην	ὕδριᾱν	μέλιττᾶν	μάχαιρᾶν	αν / ην
	ῶ	ἀγρέ	ῶ δένδρον	V.	ῶ κρήνη	ὕδριᾱ	μέλιττᾱ	μάχαιρᾱ	α / η
				Plural					
3	οἱ	ἀγροί	τὰ δένδρα	N.	αἱ κρήναι	ὕδριαι	μέλιτται	μάχαιραι	αι
4	τῶν	ἀγρῶν	τῶν δένδρων	G.	τῶν κρηνῶν	ὕδριῶν	μελιττῶν	μαχαιρῶν	ῶν
1	τοῖς	ἀγροῖς	τοῖς δένδροις	D.	ταῖς κρήναις	ὕδριαις	μελίτταις	μαχαίραις	αις
	τοὺς	ἀγρούς	τὰ δένδρα	A.	τᾶς κρήνᾱς	ὕδριᾱς	μελίττᾱς	μαχαίρᾱς	ᾱς
	ῶ	ἀγροί	ῶ δένδρα	V.	ῶ κρήναι	ὕδριαι	μέλιτται	μάχαιραι	αι